



Development of the two new refuges just authorized, Pahrana-gat, in Nevada, and Willamette, in Oregon, will be made over a period of time by the Department's Fish and Wildlife Service. Funds for land purchases come from the sale of duck stamps or from a Congressional loan fund which is to be repaid later from duck stamp receipts. Pahrana-gat has 4,826 acres, Willamette, 5,371.

The Commission also approved the addition of 9,352 acres to four existing refuges. They are: Brigantine, New Jersey, 100 acres; Mississquoi, Vermont, 500 acres; Patuxent, Maryland, 355 acres; and Noxubee, Mississippi, 8,397 acres. The Commission also approved a new purchase price for 320 acres for the Delevan National Wildlife Refuge in California and 6,000 acres for the Ouray Refuge in Utah. Of the Ouray total, 1,146 acres will be leased.

The Pahrana-gat Refuge is in the lower Pahrana-gat Valley in Lincoln County, Nevada, about 75 miles south of Las Vegas. It is in a relatively well-watered valley in an important waterfowl lane, halfway between Salt Lake Valley and the Gulf of California. The principal water areas are Upper and Lower Pahrana-gat Lakes. Several seasonal impoundments will be developed. Grazing will be continued as a management practice necessary to maintain range and pasture lands in optimum condition for waterfowl use. Peak populations of 30,000 ducks are expected.

The Willamette Refuge, in the heart of Willamette Valley seven miles south of Corvallis, Oregon, will be an important wintering ground for the western Canada goose which nests in the Copper River country in Alaska. Recent inventories indicate that of a total population of 21,000 geese of this species, 14,000 winter in Willamette Valley. About 2,000 acres will be planted to rye grass, clover, sudan grass and field corn for waterfowl use. Another 1,000 acres will be ponded in low areas by a series of check dams. Pasture areas to provide green feed for the Canada geese will be developed and maintained. In addition to the geese great numbers of mallards, pintails and other ducks use the area. The whistling swan is common to the Willamette.

In addition to Secretary Udall, members of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission are Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman; Secretary of Commerce Luther H. Hodges; United States Senator Roman L. Hruska of Nebraska; United States Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana; Congressman Frank L. Karsten of Missouri; and Congressman Leon H. Gavin of Pennsylvania.

Ex officio members for the meeting in Washington D. C., were Donald E. Foltz, Director, Indiana Department of Conservation; Stuart Critcher, Federal Aid Coordinator, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission; John E. Phelps, Assistant Director, Utah Department of Fish and Game; George W. Davis, Commissioner, Vermont Fish and Game Commission; Wayne E. Kirch, Chariman, Nevada Fish and Game Commission; John McKean, Chief, Division of Game, Oregon Game Commission; and Ernest A. Vaughn, Director, Maryland Department of Game and Inland Fish.

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